

BELLIGERENT NATIONS EXCHANGE THOUSANDS OF MAIMED PRISONERS.

Through Kindly Offices of Swedish Government, Slavs and Teutons Release Hordes of Incapacitated Men—Russians Don't Allow Captives to Remain Long in One Camp.

Stockholm, Sweden, May 17.—Clad in great coats of West Point gray, the first of the hopelessly wounded German and Austrian prisoners of war to come out of Russia this year, passed through Sweden a few days ago in exchange for the helpless and hapless Russians who had been sent home from the German hospital camps. The Austrians and Germans were a more cheerful lot than the stolid, silent Russians and seemed to have a more definite idea of their future life.

"It is nothing," said one young Austrian with his right leg gone and two fearful scars on his face, "I am a jeweler by trade and my hands are as good as ever."

The exchange of wounded prisoners undertaken by the Swedish Red Cross is a significant affair. Effective May 15 three trains running weekly in each direction from the Finnish frontier to the southern reaches of the Baltic can handle but comparatively few of the men so hopelessly used up that the warring nations are glad to be rid of them. Some statisticians claim to have knowledge of the situation has declared that with trains running daily all the year round it would take ten years to complete the transport of the human wastrel of war now held in Russia and Germany.

One of the wounded Austrians on the first train coming from Russia was asked how many of his comrades were left in Russia.

"Oh," he replied, "there must be a million of them."

This prisoner said he had been "all over Russia" and that few war prisoners, either wounded or whole of skin and limb, were permitted to remain in one camp more than a month or two. He was wounded in August last and said he must have been in every hospital camp from Vladivostok to Petrograd.

There was one young soldier from Prague, Bohemia, who had had a terrible experience. "He was in the cavalry and was riding in a charge when a shrapnel shell burst just beneath him. The horse was killed and the rider was wounded twenty-one times. Seven times he was placed on the operating table. He emerged with one leg gone and the other so broken, bent and twisted that it but little resembled human form."

And yet the man had pleaded with the doctors for that remnant of a limb. "They wanted to cut it off, too, as well as my right hand, but I heard them talking and I said, 'please, good Mr. Doctor, don't cut off my other leg and my hand.' At last they let me go," he said.

The hand was scarred in many places but seemed otherwise to be perfectly useful. But in time of war amputation is an effective and expeditious treatment.

Each man of the 217 on board the train from Russia had his own thrilling story to tell. Each one had tasted the utmost of the bitterness of war and some seemed so badly maimed and mangled that even Death had refused to accept them.

There was one poor fellow moving about the train with sheep-skin pads on his knees and both feet gone. "No good any more," he smiled in broken English when he learned that The Associated Press correspond-

ent on board the hospital train was an American.

"And boom, boom, boom no good either," he added, mimicking the roar of battle. This man had lain wounded for days with his feet in a half-frozen stream. When found he was more dead than alive. Up to the time he lost consciousness he said he must have been lying on doors for six or seven days. All this time he heard the screech and roar of shells passing above his head and occasionally exploding about him. Anyone of them, he said, would have been a welcome end to his agony. But now he was smiling and cheerful on his way "home." He did not know what he could do when he got there for he had been a horse-shoer by trade and a horse-shoer without feet is not of much account.

Some of the prisoners complained bitterly of their treatment at the hands of the Russians, but the more intelligent of the wounded soldiers declared that while their lots had been hard they realized the Russians had done all they possibly could under the circumstances. There were the days of exposure on the battlefields which could not be helped, the poor field accommodations for the wounded, who had to be cared for in far greater numbers than anyone had ever anticipated, and the hours of neglect due to the fact that the doctors had more work than they could possibly handle.

One prisoner said he lay on the floor of a house or stable for two days and the only soft thing about him was his own blood. His uniform had been entirely shot away by the explosive which had cost him a leg. Some of the soldiers said they had been robbed by Cossacks as they lay wounded in the field, money and little trinkets of jewelry being ruthlessly snatched from them. It became a custom, the Austrians said, for the wounded to turn their pockets inside out as they lay upon the frozen ground to show they had nothing and thus escape a bayonet prod.

The Swedish doctors in charge of the hospital trains listen to these stories with indulgent smiles. They say undoubtedly there have been cases of great hardship, but the wounded soldier as a rule is very keen for sympathy and talks accordingly.

There were two pitiful cases of tuberculosis on the train. The Swedish life were fast running out of the glass for one of them, but he seemed to grow a bit stronger as the train neared Trelleborg where the prisoners were to be transferred to a German hospital train.

"It will be good to get home," he sighed.

"But the poor devil never will get there," said the doctor, for the prisoners coming from Russia are kept outside Hamburg for a month as a rule to guard against the importation of any infectious disease. They are not taken to Berlin, for it is said here the Germans do not wish wounded men on the streets of the capital.

The other prisoner far along in the relentless grip of consumption, had also suffered the loss of a leg. He said he had a wife and three children at home and he did not know how he could ever provide for them.

The invalid transport trains passing

through Sweden do not come to Stockholm and the Swedish people as a whole see very little of the wounded men. The nearest approach to Stockholm is Helsingborg, where the men detrains for dinner. As the first train from Russia came in Helsingborg the military attaché of the Austrian legation in Stockholm was at the station. The train platform was crowded with soldiers on crutches and with arms torn away. It was pitiful to see the poor cripples straighten up and salute with such hands as they had left when they caught sight of the officer in full uniform.

The attaché and representatives of the German legation distributed cigarettes, cigars, newspapers and German weeklies to the men on the train.

And to each an envelope was handed with especial ceremony. These envelopes were found to contain pictures of Emperor William, of Germany, Emperor Francis Joseph, of Austria and Field Marshal von Hindenburg.

After dinner there were songs of the Fatherland, sung with lusty German voices. When the singing first began the maimed soldiers came hopping to the song-circle as fast as crutches and heavy canes could help them. They gave cheers for the Emperors and stood with heads uncovered as they chorused "The Watch on the Rhine." The Swedish Red Cross has splendidly organized the arduous work of transferring the prisoners between Russia and Germany and every prisoner who has made the journey across has been wrapped in his praise of the comfort provided for him. Each train is in charge of the surgeon of the Swedish army and there are special nurses and orderlies. Each train is provided with a rooming car, a kitchen, a dining car and a baggage car. The necessary train is stopped while it is performed. The governments of Russia and Germany pay for the expense of the transport of the prisoners, the Red Cross handling all the accounts. The journey is a long one and the work of exchange is expensive. It is not so expensive, however, as continuing to care for the helpless prisoners.

Enlisted Men May Go To West Point.

As an incentive for the enlistment of desirable recruits for the United States army, Adjutant General F. C. March has called attention of all officers of the general recruiting service to the act of Congress of May 4, 1916, which provides the cadets to the West Point military academy may be appointed from the enlisted personnel of the army. The act in part follows:

"That the President is hereby authorized to appoint cadets to the United States Military Academy from among enlisted men of the Regular Army between the ages of nineteen and twenty-two years who have served as enlisted men not more than one year, to be selected under such regulations as the President may prescribe."

Young men who thus put in a year or so in the service and feel qualified to pass the examinations for the military school may have opportunity to take the examinations by applying to the President. It is thought a year's service will be of great material assistance to young men seeking commissions.

THE LATE ANDREW RYLUS.

Redding, May 17.—Andrew Rylus, who died recently, was kind to animals and sometimes did little kindnesses for neighbors. He loved flowers and plants. Someone shot him once. The bullet could not be extracted. This at times was the cause of much discomfort and irritation. He thought, as do so many others, that the remedy for all ills was indulgence in that which is the cause of almost all ills and frequently death.

COAST TO COAST IN AUTO IN LESS THAN EIGHT DAYS

Remarkable Feat Accomplished by Noted Cross Country Driver.

New York, May 17.—Shortening by three days, nineteen hours, and twenty-three minutes all previous automobile records for travel between Los Angeles and New York city, E. G. Baker arrived here yesterday at 2:45 p. m. in a standard Cadillac eight-cylinder roadster, after having traveled across the continent in seven days, eleven hours and fifty-two minutes, allowing for three hours difference in time.

Mr. Baker left Los Angeles at 12:01 noon on Monday, May 8, and virtually raced over 3,471 miles of roads of all conditions in order to smash a previous record established by himself about a year ago in a Stutz roadster. W. E. Strum, an Indianapolis newspaper man, who accompanied Baker on his trip a year ago, was his companion on the present trip. The two men were much fatigued, having only had about twelve hours of sleep during the entire trip. The route taken was from Los Angeles to Flagstaff, Arizona, then to Albuquerque, Santa Fe and Las Vegas, N. M.; Trinidad, Col.; Dodge City and Emporia, Kan.; Kansas City, Mo.; and then through St. Louis, Indianapolis, Columbus, Wheeling, Pittsburgh and Philadelphia to New York.

The trip made by Baker in his Cadillac compares favorably with the time regularly made by the fastest railroad trains that cover the distance. The regular scheduled for the railroad is about ninety hours. The distance by rail is 3,240 miles, and twenty-two locomotives are used. The train runs on smooth tracks with a clear right of way, while the Cadillac, as Baker was forced to cover 231 miles more than the railroad train, and had to contend with all sorts of road conditions.

The biggest day's run made by Baker was 587 miles, the highest speed attained was 68 miles an hour, and the average speed for the entire journey was 36 1-6 miles an hour, without deducting any time lost for meals, sleep or supplies. Baker's car was equipped with United States "Nobby tread" tires, which he said were an important item in helping him to successfully accomplish the record-breaking trip.

SEEK TO PLACE FIGHTING MEN ON FARMLANDS

Rider Haggard Investigates the Plan for Australian Wards Emigration.

Hobart, Australia, May 17.—Sir Rider Haggard, the British novelist and authority on land settlement who was recently dispatched from England to inquire into the placing of British soldiers and sailors on farms in the Overseas Dominions after the war, has been found here, and taken up the project with the government, press and people of Australia. Sir Rider found that a number of schemes for the return of soldiers to the land were already being considered here, and that the test being to furnish such men with farms in the federal capital area at Canberra, having them in return pledge themselves to serve the country as a defense force in case of need, or in other words, to form the nucleus of a national guard.

In his speeches here Sir Rider has asked how it will be possible to hold the British empire together, if every possible step is not taken to ensure an increase of its white population. "Today the empire covers fully one-fourth of the entire globe," he said, "and it is held by about 60,000,000 white people, of whom about 40,000,000 dwell in the United Kingdom. It is just all that we can do to hold the empire with that population of white people. With that population decreased I doubt if we could hold it. It seems to me that each component part of the empire should take every possible step to insure an increase of its white population if we want to feel safe in the coming times."

"It is obviously desirable that there should be more producers. For years I have studied this aspect and I have come to the conclusion that the future of England and its dominions, and I think also any of the western world, depends on the land dweller. We want to get more land dwellers, more country villages, more country homes. Look at Australia. Think for a moment how many millions might be happy and thrive within its limits."

Sir Rider declared that to turn the people out in a raw country and bid them make a living out of it was useless, and it was equally foolish to set them at a distance from railroads. "Settlement," he said, "must become a scientific pursuit and must be thoroughly well thought out beforehand by responsible governments or great business concerns."

ARCADE NOTES

Now that leather is scarce, and high in price, it is a satisfaction to know that at the Post Office News store, best quality leather goods, may still be bought at moderate prices. Wallets, bankers' cases, tourists' writing cases, bill folders, etc., of superior make, are among the leather articles. Everything obtainable in the line of useful memorandum and blank books, is shown. Old correspondence, both for commercial and social letters, and artistic greeting cards, suitable for all occasions, are always ready. This well known store is recognized as headquarters for every desirable periodical and magazine that is published. The Post Office News store, 11 Arcade, is only a few feet from Main street.

Diamonds, watches, jewelry, cut-glass and silverware make the most ideal gifts for graduations, weddings, birthdays, anniversaries and parties. Come and see how well we can serve you. M. J. Buecher, the Reliable Jeweler, 48 Fairfield avenue near Middle street.—Adv.



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HARTFORD MEN MINING QUARTZ AND ASBESTOS

Limestone, Mica, and Feldspar Taken from Earth at Satan's Kingdom.

Henry P. Fiske and Lawyer Frank W. Jones, Jr., have opened a mine at Satan's Kingdom, New Hartford, and have installed a boiler and engine. They have found limestone, for which there is always a demand, mica, feldspar, asbestos and quartz and are particularly interested in the quartz and asbestos.

The indications of quartz and feldspar are excellent. The mine is near the railroad tracks. The quartz which is found both in rock form and in crystals, sells at \$5 a ton while feldspar sells at about a dollar less. The latter is especially in demand in the manufacture of porcelain, while the quartz is used in the manufacture of sandpaper and the like. In the course of their exploration the prospectors have found many garnets, but none of much value.

If any other minerals are found in paying quantities they will be welcomed, but the quartz and feldspar are the things now sought for.

From the viewpoint of the geologist Satan's Kingdom has always been interesting for due to geological upheavals, traces of various minerals and metals are found there. It is in what Connecticut geologists know as the Hartland schist area, a tract about six miles wide where it enters the state at the northern boundary being a continuation of the Hoosac Mountain formation. The rock is highly quartzose and granular in some places and in others the rock may be called a granite composed of feldspar, quartz, muscovite, biotite and garnet.

From New Hartford the vein runs southwest through Prospect, Bethany, Beacon Falls, Naugatuck, Oxford and Seymour. Besides the garnets the rock carries mica but it has never been found in quantities sufficiently abundant to make it worth while. It is usually found in flakes from an inch in diameter down to microscopic threads and films. The garnets are found more abundantly in Roxbury, where the Hartland schist forms the bed rock and here the garnet crystals are found as large as walnuts. The crystals have occasionally been gathered for commercial purposes. There are also to be found in the same rock staurolite and cyanite.

Siberian Farmers On Way to America

Yokohama, Japan, May 17.—The steamer Sado Maru which sails to-day for Canada and the United States carries eighty-five Russian farmers who are seeking occupations in America. They say they are leaving Russia owing to the depressed conditions prevailing in their villages of Siberia.

THE PRETTIEST FACE

and the most beautiful hands are often disguised by an unsightly wart. It can easily be removed in a few days without pain by using Cynos Wart Remover. For sale only at the Cynos Pharmacy, 415 Bedford Ave.

ADVERTISE IN THE FARMER.

SPAIN'S GREATEST PETE

Spaniards will celebrate today the greatest of their patriotic holidays—the Fete du Roi, marking the thirtieth birthday of King Alfonso XIII. Once the most warlike of nations, Spain is now enjoying the novel sensation of being completely at peace while nearly all of the European nations are plunged into a terrible and devastating war. That the curse has not fallen upon Spain is attributed by a vast multitude of Spaniards to the influence of King Alfonso, and in consequence the young monarch has become more popular than ever. The elements of discontent which have been responsible for so many uprisings and riots in the past decade are still active, but the popularity of Alfonso has prevented the complete success of their anti-monarchical plots.

King Alfonso is now the head of a bureau which has for its purpose the establishment of communication between prisoners of war and their relatives. His greatest service has been the French prisoners, and through his efforts more than 100,000 French families have received letters from dear ones who have been captured by the Germans. King Alfonso voluntarily assumed this office, and has been crowned by many of his subjects. Multitudes of women in France, Great Britain, Belgium, Germany and Austria have had cause to bless the name of the royal founder of this clearing house for information about the "missing." Spain's diplomatic and consular representatives in the various capitals necessarily play an important part in this work of mercy, but Madrid is the headquarters of the bureau, and the royal palace the center of activity. Hundreds of sympathetic letters have been dictated and signed by a Spanish monarch in connection with this pathetic task.

In maintaining an attitude of strict neutrality in the war, King Alfonso has been controlled by many difficulties. For months after the outbreak of the war the Germans spent vast sums on a propaganda designed to arouse the Spanish people against France. Germany hoped to induce Spain to make military demonstrations on her northern frontier which would force France to divert a part of her army to the Pyrenees. For a time it seemed that the Teuton Machinations were to be successful, but pro-German movement, while supported by some powerful officials, was opposed by the King and by a great majority of the people. The pro-German ministers were overthrown, and the present government, while strictly neutral, is believed to be anti-German in the personal sympathies of its members.

Since Portugal entered the war another attempt has been made to induce the Spaniards to join in a movement against their neighbor, and to assist the Portuguese royalists in their attempts to bring about the downfall of the republic. King Alfonso's answer to this propaganda was to renew his assurances to Great Britain and France that Spain would not under any circumstances attack Portugal, nor permit Spanish soil to be used as a base of operations against that republic. As an evidence of good faith, King Alfonso withdrew most of the troops stationed near the Portuguese border.

While Germany has many sympathizers in Spain, the masses of the people favor the cause of the Allies, but very few of them want Spain to participate in the war. The Spaniards are not a commercial people, but the war has practically forced them into activities from which many have reaped a rich golden reward. Whatever action other nations may take, it is practically certain that Spain will remain neutral to the end of the conflict.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY NEWS

Springdale Boiler Explodes.

Carelessness, it is said, upon the part of men who had charge of the hot-water heating system in the Springdale plant of the Stamford Rolling Mills, caused the boiler in the heater to explode Wednesday night. As a result, George La Ventura and Frank Pralich are in the Stamford hospital, suffering from severe burns and other injuries.

At Low Interest Rate.

Danbury city officials have completed arrangements with Bernard, Scholer & Co. of New York, brokers, by which the concern will loan the city \$50,000, charging interest at the rate of three and one-quarter percent. The interest rate is one of the lowest ever secured by the city. The action of the water department in redeeming thousands of dollars in water bonds before they matured, is thought to have increased the city's standing with leading bankers to a considerable extent. The loan will enable the city to own water works.

With a Hammer.

Fortunate, Degregonia, a Greenwich Italian, attempted to beat out his brains with a hammer, Friday, and he is now being held by the police pending an examination into his mental condition. The man said he had been hearing strange noises and suffering from pains in his head. He will live.

Discharge From Bankruptcy.

Richard E. Brown of Stamford, in the United States court, has been discharged from bankruptcy. Creditors of the Mendelson Horse Co. of Stamford, have filed a petition that the company be adjudicated bankrupt.

Rev. A. A. Bickford Resigns.

Rev. A. A. Bickford, pastor of the White Hills Baptist church, read his resignation to the congregation on Friday. Mr. Bickford has been pastor of the church for the past 15 years.

Boy's Legs Mangled.

As the result of having both his legs badly crushed by a freight car in the Shelton freight yard Wednesday evening, Walter Polasky, 12 years old, and son of Peter Polasky, died. The boy is said to have attempted to cross the tracks by crawling under the standing car which was suddenly started up, terribly mangling the legs from the ankles to the hip.

Destroyed By Fire.

A new six-cylinder car, in use but three days for demonstration purposes and owned by Vaast Brothers was burned Saturday night in West Norwalk, when the body caught fire from back-fire. Nothing was left of the machine when the blaze was out. The car was uninsured.

A House and Barn on the Davis D. Knapp place, Danbury, were totally destroyed by fire Friday night. The damage is estimated at not less than \$1,500 with but little insurance on the contents, the latter being the property of John Lyon. A horse, several wagons and some household furniture represented Mr. Lyon's loss. The fire started in the barn.

The bungalow at the state tuberculosis sanitarium at Coram, used as a residence by Dr. William H. Stockwell, the superintendent, was totally destroyed by fire on Friday. The blaze is thought to have been of accidental origin, presumably caused by sparks from a fire for heating metals for soldering which was being used to be in the neighborhood of \$3,000.

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